

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraphs as filed with the following replacement paragraphs:

[00154] Examples of cleavable oligonucleotides which contain two reverse U (rU) linkers and have been synthesized on a chip are as follows:

Probe	Pu1	PS1	PU2	PS2
IL6_T7	5'CAAGGATCTTACCGCT	GTTGtgaggagacttgc	ctggtgrUTAATACC	GACTCACTAT
	AGGt ctgcaggaactggatcaggrl	J <u>(SEQ ID NO:1)</u>		
CYP11A_	5'CAAGGATCTTACCGCT	GTTGgtgaccctgcaga	gatatctrUTAATAC	GACTCACTA
t7	TAGGgttccggaag taggtgatgtr	U(SEQ ID NO:2)		
ATP2A1_	5'CAAGGATCTTACCGCT	GTTGgattggcattgcc	atgggatrUTAATAC	GACTCACTAT
T7	AGGtccacagcagctacgatggrU	(SEQ ID NO:3)		
IL6_Nick	5'caaggatett accgetgttg tga	ggagact tgcctggtgn	cgctccagac ttgagtc	cega tetgeaggaa
	ctggatcaggrU (SEQ ID NO:4)		
CYP11A_	5'CAAGGATCTTACCGCT	GTTGgtgaccctgcaga	ngatatctrUCGCTCC.	AGACTTGAG
Nick	TCCGAgttccggaa gtaggtgatg			
ATP2A1_	5'CAAGGATCTTACCGCT	GTTGgattggcattgcc	atgggatrUCGCTCC	AGACTTGAG
Nick	TCCGAtccacagcagctacgatgg			

[00164] Different strategies can be used to release or cleave oligonucleotides synthesized on a solid substrate from that substrate. The cleavage efficiency of three different linkers was examined to determine the preferred linker(s) for cleaving oligonucleotides from a solid substrate (rU is 5'-phosphoramidite with 2'-acetyl and 3'DMT; U is 3'-phosphoramidite with 2'fpmp and 5'-DMT; and dU is 2'-deoxyuridine). To begin, the following oligonucleotides were synthesized using an ExpetideTM DNA synthesizer and standard phosphoamidite chemistry:

Sequence A 3'tttttttttrugtccacagcatccga-fam-5' (SEQ ID. NO:7)

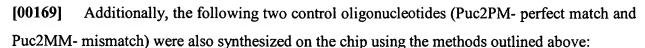
Sequence B 3'ttttttttttugtccacagcatccga-fam-5' (SEQ ID. NO:8)

Sequence C 3' ttttttttttdugtccacagcatccga-fam-5' (SEQ ID. NO:9)



[00168] The GFP gene is 714 base pairs (bp) long. Suitable subchains (computational fragmentation) for the assembly of the GFP gene were selected, and oligonucleotides between 40 and 47 nucleotides long were synthesized on a chip using the methods outlined above. The complete set of 34 GFP subchains synthesized on a chip are as follows:

GFP-F2	ATGAGTAAAG GAGAAGAACT TTTCACTGGA GTTGTCCCAA TTCTTG	SEQ ID NO:10
GFP-F3	TTGAATTAGA TGGTGATGTT AATGGGCACA AATTTTCTGT CAGT	SEQ ID NO:11
GFP-F4	GGAGAGGGTG AAGGTGATGC AACATACGGA AAACTTACCC T	SEQ ID NO:12
GFP-F5	TAAATTTATT TGCACTACTG GAAAACTACC TGTTCCATGG CCAA	SEQ ID NO:13
GFP-F6	CACTTGTCAC TACTTTCTCT TATGGTGTTC AATGCTTTTC AAGATA	SEQ ID NO:14
GFP-F7	CCCAGATCAT ATGAAACGGC ATGACTTTTT CAAGAGTGCC AT	SEQ ID NO:15
GFP-F8	GCCCGAAGGT TATGTACAGG AAAGAACTAT ATTTTTCAAA GATG	SEQ ID NO:16
GFP-F9	ACGGGAACTA CAAGACACGT GCTGAAGTCA AGTTTGAAGG T	SEO ID NO:17
GFP-	GATACCCTTG TTAATAGAAT CGAGTTAAAA GGTATTGATT TTAAAG	SEO ID NO:18
F10		
GFP-	AAGATGGAAA CATTCTTGGA CACAAATTGG AATACAACTA TAACTC	SEQ ID NO:19
F11		
GFP-	ACACAATGTA TACATCATGG CAGACAAACA AAAGAATGGA ATCAA	SEO ID NO:20
F12		
GFP-	AGTTAACTTC AAAATTAGAC ACAACATTGA AGATGGAAGC GTTCA	SEQ ID NO:21
F13		
GFP-	ACTAGCAGAC CATTATCAAC AAAATACTCC AATTGGCGAT GG	SEQ ID NO:22
F14		
GFP-	CCCTGTCCTT TTACCAGACA ACCATTACCT GTCCACACAA T	SEQ ID NO:23
F15		
GFP-	CTGCCCTTTC GAAAGATCCC AACGAAAAGA GAGACCACAT G	SEQ ID NO:24
F16		
GFP-	GTCCTTCTTG AGTTTGTAAC AGCTGCTGGG ATTACACATG GC	SEQ ID NO:25
F17		
GFP-	ATGGATGAAC TATACAAATA GCATTCGTAG AATTGACTCT ATAGTG	SEO ID NO:26
F18		
GFP-R1	TGAAAAGTTC TTCTCCTTTA CTCAT	SEQ ID NO:27
GFP-R2	ATTAACATCA CCATCTAATT CAACAAGAAT TGGGACAACT CCAG	SEQ ID NO:28
GFP-R3	CATCACCITC ACCCTCTCCA CTGACAGAAA ATTTGTGCCC	SEO ID NO:29
GFP-R4	TTTCCAGTAG TGCAAATAAA TTTAAGGGTA AGTTTTCCGT ATGTTG	SEQ ID NO:30
GFP-R5	ATAAGAGAAA GTAGTGACAA GTGTTGGCCA TGGAACAGGT AGT	SEQ ID NO:31
GFP-R6	GCCGTTTCAT ATGATCTGGG TATCTTGAAA AGCATTGAAC ACC	SEO ID NO:32
GFP-R7	CCTGTACATA ACCTTCGGGC ATGGCACTCT TGAAAAAGTC AT	SEQ ID NO:33
GFP-R8	ACGTGTCTTG TAGTTCCCGT CATCTTTGAA AAATATAGTT CTTT	SEQ ID NO:34
GFP-R9	CGATTCTATT AACAAGGGTA TCACCTTCAA ACTTGACTTC AGC	SEO ID NO:35
GFP-	TGTCCAAGAA TGTTTCCATC TTCTTTAAAA TCAATACCTT TTAACT	SEO ID NO:36
R10		<u>520 10 110.50</u>
GFP-	TGCCATGATG TATACATTGT GTGAGTTATA GTTGTATTCC AATTTG	SEQ ID NO:37
R11		<u>550 15 110.51</u>
GFP-	TIGTGTCTAA TITTGAAGTT AACTITGATT CCATTCTTTT GTTTGTC	SEQ ID NO:38
R12	on the state of th	<u>520 10 110.56</u>
GFP-	TTGTTGATAA TGGTCTGCTA GTTGAACGCT TCCATCTTCA ATG	SEQ ID NO:39
R13	The state of the s	<u>52010110.57</u>
GFP-	TGTCTGGTAA AAGGACAGGG CCATCGCCAA TTGGAGTATT	SEQ ID NO:40
R14		<u> </u>
GFP-	GGGATCTTTC GAAAGGGCAG ATTGTGTGGA CAGGTAATGG T	SEQ ID NO:41
R15		550 10 110.31
GFP-	CTGTTACAAA CTCAAGAAGG ACCATGTGGT CTCTCTTTTC GTT	SEQ ID NO:42
R16		<u>520 10 110.42</u>
GFP-	TGCTATTTGT ATAGTTCATC CATGCCATGT GTAATCCCAG CAG	SEQ ID NO:43
R17	133131 MINOTIONIO ONIGOCONO GIANICOCAO CAO	<u>520 10 110.73</u>



PUC2PM	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTGGTAACAGGATTAGCAGAGCGAGGTATGTA	SEQ ID NO:44
PUC2MM	CTGGCAGTAGCCACTGGTAACAGGATTAGCAGAGCGAGGTATGTA	SEQ ID NO:45

[00179] One method for releasing or cleaving synthesized oligonucleotides from a solid substrate is an enzymatic approach involving the use of restriction endonuclease (R.E.) enzymes to selectively and specifically cleave desired oligonucleotides from the substrate surface. To test this approach, the Dpn II R.E. enzyme was used to cleave two complementary oligonucleotide DNAs, the first oligo being GFP-F2Part 5'-CACTGGAGTTGTCCCAATTCTTGgatcggcc-3' (SEQ ID NO:46) and the second one being DpnIISite 5'-ggccgatcCAA-3' (SEQ ID NO:47). Since II enzyme recognizes and cleaves the sequence 5'-^GATC-3', the isolation of clean oligonucleotides was expected after digestion with the enzyme. Our initial test on the digested oligonucleotides in solution phase was successful. In the experiment, two oligonucleotides were mixed at a molar ration of 1:5 (GFP-F2Part:DpnIISite) and incubated with or without Dpn II enzyme at 37°C. These reactions were analyzed at various time points with CE (capillary electrophoresis, 10% polyacryliamid gel with 7 M urea). As shown in Figure 23, approximately 80% of the longer oligonucleotides were cut by Dpn II in 1 hour. This experiment demonstrates the efficient release of synthesized oligonucleotides from the substrate surface through the use of R.E. enzymes.

[00180] In other embodiments of the present disclosure, an oligonucleotide sequence can be synthesized such that it will anneal itself, thereby forming a duplex oligonucleotide with a hairpin loop. The duplex DNA can then be digested with an enzyme, for example a R.E. enzyme, to form double-stranded DNA that can be ligated to other double-stranded DNA and/or oligonucleotides. To demonstrate the ability of a R.E. enzyme to digest a synthesized oligonucleotide that anneals to itself, the following oligonucleotide sequences with FAM label (DEFINE FAM) were synthesized on a chip with a regular DMT chip surface:

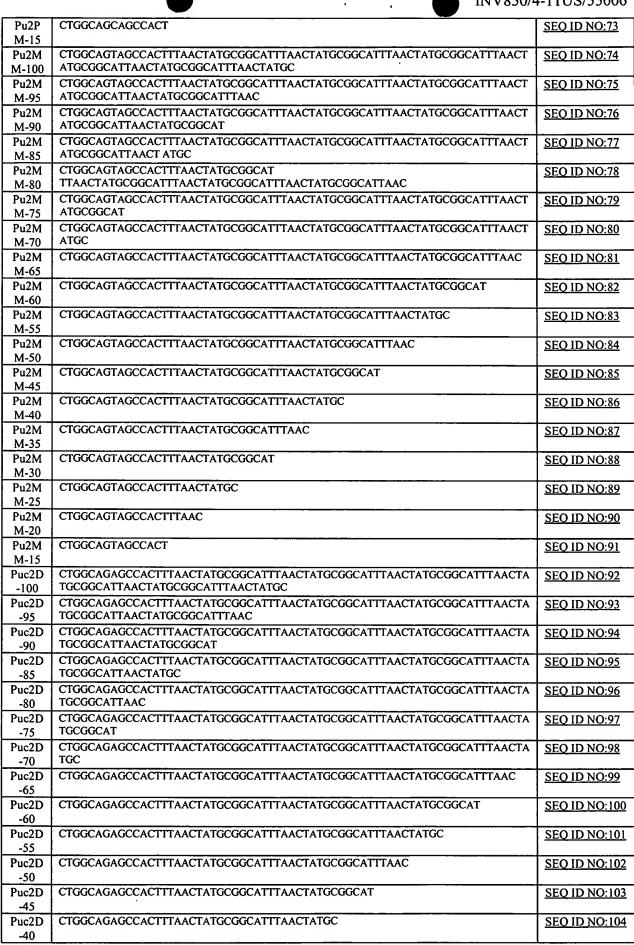
ePM-40	FAM-	SEQ ID NO:48
	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT	
	AGTTAAATGCCGCATAGTTAAAGTGGCTGCTGCCAG	
ePM-20	FAM-	SEQ ID NO:49
	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT	
	AGTTAAATGCCGCATA	



eMM-40	FAM- CTGGCAGCACCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT AGTTACATGCCGCATAGTTAAAGTGGCTGCTGCCAG	SEQ ID NO:50
eMM- 40-2	FAM- CTGGCAGCACCACTTTAACTATGCGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT AGTTACATGCCGCATAGTTAAAGTGGCCGCTGCCAG	SEO ID NO:51
eMM-20	FAM- CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT AGTTACATGCCGCATA	SEQ ID NO:52
eD-40	FAM- CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT AGTTAATGCCGCATAGTTAAAGTGGCTGCTGCCAG	SEQ ID NO:53
eD-40-2	FAM- CTGGCAGCACCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGGCCTTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT AGTTAATGCCGCATAGTTAAAGTGGCGCTGCCAG	SEO ID NO:54
eD-20	FAM- CTGGCAGCACCTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGATCGCCTTTTGGCCGATCGCAT AGTTAATGCCGCATA	SEQ ID NO:55

[00183] This efficiency of the PGA chemistry utilized in the present disclosure also results in the ability of this chemistry to generate synthetic oligonucleotide sequences that are significantly longer than those that could be synthesized using previously disclosed methods. A programmable light-directed synthesis system was used to synthesize oligomers up to 100 nucleotides in length on a microfluidic array chip. The oligonucleotides synthesized on a chip were as follows:

PU2PM -100	CTGGCAGCAGCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGC	SEQ ID NO:56
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEO ID NO.67
M-95	ATGCGGCATTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEO ID NO:57
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEO ID NO:58
M-90	ATGCGGCATTAACTATGCGGCAT	<u>500 10 110.56</u>
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEQ ID NO:59
M-85	ATGCGGCATTAACTATGC	
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEQ ID NO:60
M-80	ATGCGGCATTAAC	
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEQ ID NO:61
M-75	ATGCGGCAT	
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT	SEQ ID NO:62
M-70	ATGC	
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEQ ID NO:63
M-65	CTCCCACCACCACTTTA ACTATCCCCCATTTTA ACTATCCCCCATTTA ACTATCCCCCATTTA ACTATCCCCCATTTA ACTATCCATCATTA ACTATCCATCATTA ACTATCCATCATATCATATCATCATATATCATATCATATCATATCATATATCATATCATATCATATATCATATCATATATCATATATCATATCATATATCATATATCATATATCATATATCATATATCATATATATCATATATATATCATATATCATATATATATATATCATATATATATATATATATCAT	000 to 110 to
Pu2P M-60	CTGGCAGCACCTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:64
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGC	SEO ID NO.65
M-55		SEQ ID NO:65
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEO ID NO:66
M-50		220 10 110.00
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEO ID NO:67
M-45		
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGC	SEO ID NO:68
M-40		
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEQ ID NO:69
M-35		
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:70
M-30		
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCACTTTAACTATGC	SEQ ID NO:71
M-25	CTCCCA CCA CCCA CTTTA A C	000 10 110 -0
Pu2P	CTGGCAGCCACTTTAAC	SEO ID NO:72
M-20		





Puc2D -35	CTGGCAGAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEO ID NO:105
Puc2D -30	CTGGCAGAGCCACTTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEO ID NO:106
Puc2D -25	CTGGCAGAGCCACTTTAACTATGC	SEO ID NO:107
Puc2D -20	CTGGCAGAGCCACTITAAC	SEQ ID NO:108
Puc2D -15	CTGGCAGAGCCACT	SEQ ID NO:109
Stem- 85	TTAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATATTAACTATGCGGCATTATAACTATGCGGCATATTAACTATGCGGCATATTAACTATGCGGCATATTAACTATGCGGCATTAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATTAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTATAACTAATAA	SEQ ID NO:110
Stem- 80	TTAACTATGCGGCATTAACTATGCGGCATATTAACTATGCGGCATTAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACTATGCGGCATATAACATAACTAATGCATATAACTAATGCATAACATAACTAATGCATATAACTAATAACTAATAACTAATAACTAATAACTAATAA	SEQ ID NO:111
Stem- 75	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT ATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:112
Stem- 70	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACT ATGC	SEO ID NO:113
Stem- 65	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEQ ID NO:114
Stem- 60	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:115
Stem- 55	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGC	SEQ ID NO:116
Stem- 50	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEQ ID NO:117
Stem- 45	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:118
Stem- 40	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGC	SEQ ID NO:119
Stem- 35	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEO ID NO:120
Stem- 30	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:121
Stem- 25	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAACTATGC	SEQ ID NO:122
Stem- 20	TTAACTATGCGGCATTTAAC	SEQ ID NO:123
Stem- 15	TTAACTATGCGGCAT	SEQ ID NO:124
Stem- 10	TTAACTATGC	SEQ ID NO:125
Stem-5	TTAAC	SEQ ID NO:126

[00184] The oligonucleotides were designed to contain a 15-mer probe

(CTGGCAGCAGCCACT) (SEQ ID NO:73) at their 5'-end and connected to variable sizes of non-probe sequence from 0 to 85 nucleotides in length. Additionally, a single base mismatch 15-mer (CTGGCAGTAGCCACT) (SEQ ID NO:91) probe and a single base deletion 14-mer (CTGGCAGAGCCACT) (SEQ ID NO:109) probe were also synthesized on the chip as control sequences. Oligonucleotides from 5 to 100 nucleotides in length were synthesized on the chip, and the two control sequences were arranged side by side in the array for comparison purpose. After the oligomers were synthesized on the array chip, the chip was deprotected with EDA at room temperature for 2 hours and fill with 6xSSPE buffer. The 15 nucleotide target

oligonucleotide labeled with a Cy3 dye was hybridized to the chip in 6xSSPE for 2 hours at room temperature, and the chip was subsequently washed with 0.001xSSPE buffer. As illustrated in Figure 25 and shown in Figure 26, the presence of fluorescence on the chip after the hybridization assay demonstrates that 100-mer oligonucleotides were synthesized on the chip. Additionally, the fluorescence intensity profile indicated a stepwise yield of 98.5% for the synthesis of these long oligonucleotides, which is a significant improvement over known methods for synthesizing oligonucleotides on an array chip. In another experiment, a comparison of the per step yield for oligonucleotides 15 to 100 nucleotides in length on a dual chip demonstrated an even higher stepwise yield of 98.9% and 99.1% (figure 27).

[00187] The disclosed methods for generating pools of oligomers can also be used to generate an RNAi (RNA interference) chip. 252 oligonucleotides were generated on an RNAi chip using the methods previously outlined, with each oligonucleotide synthesized containing a SAP1 sequence (TGCAGTTAGCTCTTCCASAT) (SEQ ID NO:128) at the 3' end, a variable RNAi specific sequence in the middle (22 nucleotides in length), and a T7 promotor sequence CCTATAGTGAGTCGTATTA) (SEQ ID NO:129) at the 5'-end (total length about 60 nucleotides). In order to cleave the oligonucleotides from the chip, reverse-U was incorporated into the 3'-end of all oligonucleotides. Additionally, the same two control oligonucleotides (puc2PM- (SEQ ID NO:44-perfect match) and Puc2MM- (SEQ ID NO:45-mismatch) as disclosed in example 3 were also synthesized on the RNAi chip. The quality of the oligonucleotides synthesized on the RNAi chip was also analyzed by hybridization with Cy3 labeled 15-mer Puc2 target as outlined in Example 3.



II. ADDITION OF SEQUENCE LISTING

Please place the attached paper copy of the "Sequence Listing" in the captioned application beginning as a new page after the "Abstract of the Disclosure."

III. CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the Request to Comply with Sequence Rules and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret J. Sampson

Reg. No. 47,052

Attorney for Applicant

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. First City Tower 1001 Fannin St., Suite 2300 Houston, Texas 77002-6760 512.542.8569

Date: April 21, 2006

657631_1.DOC